

## Norwegian Trade Unions For Soviet

The Norwegian workers are no longer satisfied to have the capitalists own the industries in which they must work and to be oppressed and robbed by them. They have declared themselves for the abolition of the whole capitalist system and adopted a program to accomplish that end.

This program is not a program adopted by a Socialist or Communist Party, but a program which was adopted by the National Congress of Trade Unions at a convention held during the month of July. The equivalent to this action in this country would be the adoption of the same kind of program by the American Federation of Labor.

The steps which the Norwegian workers have determined upon are, first, the organization of shop committees in all factories and workshops as the first step toward securing control of production, endorsement of the Soviet system of government and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat as the form of the workers' government after the conquest of power, third, endorsement of mass action by the workers as the means of achieving power.

### The Shop Committees.

Through the shop committees the Norwegian workers expect to mobilize all the workers in each factory for the struggle against the capitalists. Their shop committees will not represent the workers of one union, but will unite all the unions in each factory by a common bond. By thus uniting all the workers in each factory in a common struggle in that factory, the idea of organization of the workers in each factory for control of that factory is built up. The workers discuss and decide the issues which come up as their every day conflict with the management and secure the necessary training to control the industries themselves. It is because the shop committees not only are powerful weapons in the immediate struggle of the workers for better wages and working conditions, but because they give the workers the training and discipline which they

must have in order to conduct industry, that they are included in the program of the Norwegian workers.

### Mass Action

The Norwegian workers do not expect to gain control of the industries through merely organizing a shop committee in each factory. They realize that these shop committees are merely initial steps — that the control they can achieve while the capitalists remain in control of government is limited by narrow bounds. They know that if the shop committees go too far in their demands the capitalists will call in the government with its army and police and courts to break the organization and power of the workers. Because of this realization they have declared themselves for the use of mass action of the workers against the government in order to abolish the instrument of oppression which the capitalists use against them.

### Soviet and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

The Norwegian workers are close neighbors to the workers of Russia and they have learned from their struggle. After the Russian workers overthrew the government of the czar and of Kerensky they established the Soviets — Workers Councils — as the organs of their government. The Workers Councils are made up of the representatives of the workers of various occupations and of the peasants. The shop committees which the Norwegian workers have set up are the nuclei of the Workers Councils. Only workers who gain their livelihood through useful labor are permitted to vote in the election of the Workers Councils. The capitalists are disfranchised. This means that the workers have complete control of the government, and their exploiters are barred from participation. This is the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, for which the Norwegian workers have declared themselves.

The Norwegian workers, through the decision of their Trade Union congress, have adopted the program which the experience of the Russian workers has shown is the only road to the emancipation of the workingclass.